

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration REGION IX Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam

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JAN 27 2006

Mr. Will Kempton Director Office of the Director California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500

For Abhijit Bagde, Federal Programming (MS 82)

Dear Mr. Kempton:

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 16 for the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) submitted with your letter January 17, 2006. This amendment programs Section 5310 funds to purchase replacement buses for Easy Lift Transportation into the STIP.

We accept this Amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this FSTIP amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed (40 CFR Sections 93.126 and/or 93.127). Our finding was coordinated with the Federal Highway Administration.

This letter also constitutes approval, and inclusion of SBCAG's Amendment No. 16 into California's 2005/2006 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program with the understanding that FTA funding approval of projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers

Regional Administrator

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE